

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koji KATANO

Application No.: New U.S. National Phase of
PCT/JP2005/001877

Filed: June 21, 2006

Docket No.: 128472

For: FUEL CELL SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See References 5-7.
- 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 1-4 and 7.
- 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of one or more non-English language reference cited herein appears in the Appendix attached hereto. See References 5-7.
- 6. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 5-7.

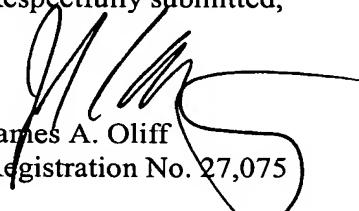
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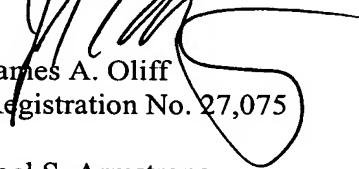
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7. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 5-7.

Respectfully submitted,


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Appendix AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JUN 2006

Comment for IDS

(031160US)

1. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open under No. 2003-77506

This document discloses a fuel cell system in which a discharge valve provided on an exhaust passage on the side of a fuel electrode of a fuel cell stack is opened and gas including the impurities is discharged, when it is determined that a power generation ability of the fuel cell stack decreases.

2. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open under No. 9-312167

This document discloses a fuel cell system in which a discharge valve provided on an exhaust passage on the side of a fuel electrode of a fuel cell stack is opened and gas including the impurities is discharged, when it is determined that a power generation ability of the fuel cell stack decreases.

3. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open under No. 11-144753

This document discloses a fuel cell system in which plural reaction gas supplying parts are provided on a unit cell of a fuel cell stack and reaction gas is supplied thereto to improve diffusion of the reaction gas.

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)			US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128472 APPLICANT Koji KATANO FILING DATE June 21, 2006	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name		
	1	6,093,502	07/25/2000	Carlstrom, Jr. et al.		
	2	2003/0165725 A1	09/04/2003	Kudou et al.		
	3	6,569,549 B1	05/27/2003	Sawyer		
	4	2002/0177020	11/28/2002	Lio		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation
	5	JP A 2003-77506	03/14/2003	Japan	X	X
	6	JP A 9-312167	12/02/1997	Japan	X	X
	7	JP A 11-144753	05/28/1999	Japan	X	X
OTHER DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)				
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						